

# APPENDIX D—PLANNING BULLETIN #1

Bureau of Land Management - Southern Nevada District Office

## Las Vegas

Resource Management Plan and  
Environmental Impact Statement

### Contact Information:

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February 2010

### Resource Management Plan Revision

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Southern Nevada District Office, Las Vegas and Pahrump Field Offices, are initiating a planning effort to revise the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP). This planning effort involves preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Upon completion, the revised RMP will replace the existing Las Vegas RMP. The RMP will establish land use management policy for multiple resource uses on approximately 3.1 million acres of public land and 1 million acres of split-estate lands in Clark County and southern Nye County, Nevada.

The need for the RMP revision is to respond to new policies including but not limited to energy, demand for limited resources, appropriate protection of sensitive resources, increases in conflict between competing resource values and land uses, and other issues that have surfaced since approval of the existing RMP. The overall objective of the Las Vegas RMP planning effort is to provide a collaborative planning approach that assists BLM in updating the management decisions of the current RMP. As such, early public input is crucial to identify various RMP-level issues that should be addressed through the revision. The scoping period provides the public an opportunity to learn about the RMP revision and to help identify issues, provide input, and propose alternatives to be addressed in the EIS.

The Final RMP will identify desired outcomes, future conditions to be maintained or achieved, and specify uses or resource allocations that are allowable, restricted, or prohibited, including any restrictions needed to meet desired outcomes. Public input on issues related to these decisions is welcomed.

Public comments must be provided to the BLM by February 28th in order to be formally analyzed and included in the Scoping Report. Comments submitted after this date will be informally considered.



### What is a Resource Management Plan?

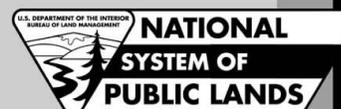
A Resource Management Plan (RMP) is a set of comprehensive long-range decisions concerning the use and management of resources administered by the BLM.

The BLM land use (or RMP) planning process, explained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1600, BLM 1601 Manual, and BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (H-1601-1), falls within the framework of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental analysis and decision making process described in the Council on Environmental Quality regulations of 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Department of the Interior NEPA Manual (516 DM 1 7), and BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1.

As part of the plan preparation, a supporting Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will also be prepared. Both the RMP and EIS will be developed concurrently with public participation.

Visit our website at:

[www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html)



BLM

Las Vegas and Pahrump Field Offices

## Where We've Been...And Where We're Going

The Resource Management Planning Process officially started with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register on January 5, 2010. The NOI announced the Southern Nevada District Office's intent to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Las Vegas and Pahrump Field Offices, as well as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required under NEPA.

The NOI also initiated the scoping period, which will last until February 28, 2010. The objective of scoping is to involve the public in the planning process and comply with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). The public scoping process will identify planning issues, develop planning criteria, and evaluate the existing land use plans in the context of the needs and interests of the public.

There are many ways for you to provide comments during the scoping period. We encourage you to come to one of the scoping meetings, ask questions, and give us your input. In addition to the scoping meetings, BLM will be accepting comments and issues through the following methods:

### Mailed or Delivered to:

Las Vegas Field Office, Bureau of Land Management,  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130  
Attn: Carolyn Ronning, RMP Project Lead

The process for soliciting public input and any comments that are submitted during the scoping period will be summarized in a Scoping Report and made available to the public at the BLM's Southern Nevada District Office and on the project's website.

Emailed to: SNDO\_RMP\_Revision@blm.gov



There will be many opportunities to get involved in the planning process. Another series of public meetings and a formal 90-day public review and comment period will occur during the Draft RMP/EIS phase.



## The Resource Management Plan Process

The RMP process starts with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register, and follows through with scoping, and **alternatives development**. Following alternatives development, the BLM will evaluate the potential impacts on various resources from each of the alternatives, select a **preferred alternative**, issue the **Draft RMP/EIS**, gather public input on the Draft, Issue the **Proposed RMP/Final EIS**, initiate the **Governor's Consistency Review**, resolve any Protests, and finally sign a Record of Decision.

In close cooperation with cooperating agencies and stakeholders, the BLM will identify a range of reasonable combinations of resource uses and management practices, and **develop reasonable alternatives**. These alternatives will address the issues identified during scoping and offer a distinct choice among potential management strategies. The "No Action" alternative is always included, which is the continuation of current management practices.

The BLM recommends a **preferred alternative** that best resolves planning issues and promotes multiple use objectives while adhering to federal laws and regulations.

The BLM will evaluate comments on the **Draft RMP/EIS** and make any modifications needed. They will then file a copy of the **Proposed RMP/Final EIS** with the EPA. This begins the 30-day protest period.

The 60-day **Governor's consistency review** identifies inconsistencies, if any, with State or local plans.

### Planning for the Future...

The preliminary issues that will be addressed in the plan development are management and protection of public land resources, management of conflicting and competing uses, access to and transportation on the public lands, and balancing multiple uses. Other specific issues may include, but are not limited to:

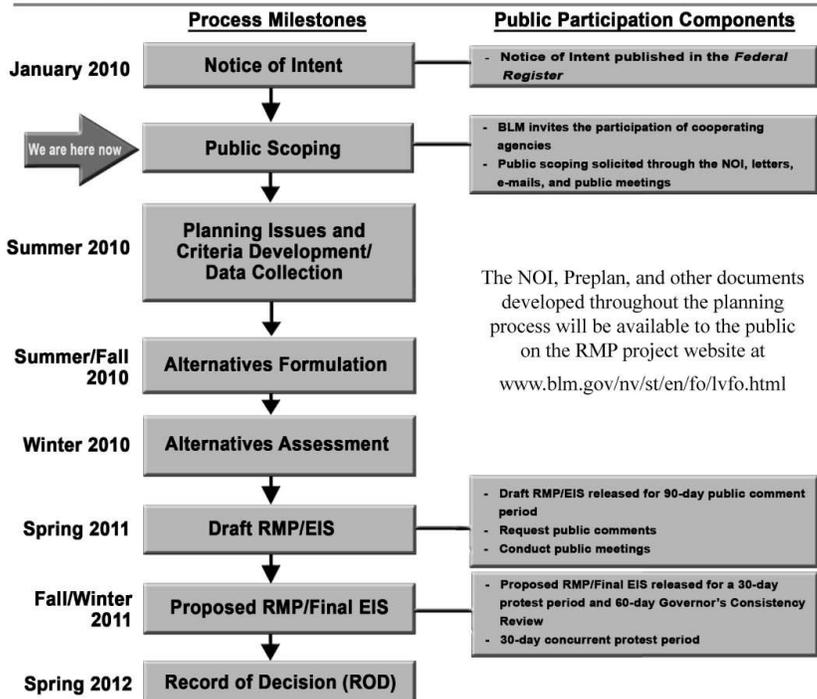
- Changes to disposal areas for communities
- Visual resource management categories
- Energy and minerals management
- Special status species management
- Evaluation of new special designation proposals
- Clarification of off-highway vehicle (OHV) management
- Consideration of new recreation areas
- Management of site-type rights-of-way
- Reclamation standards for disturbances.

These issues will be evaluated during the RMP planning process. These issues are preliminary and may be modified, deleted, and/or new ones added through the public scoping process.

An integral component of the Las Vegas RMP revision process is community involvement. Throughout the plan development, the BLM anticipates that various partners, including Cooperating Agencies, Native American Tribes, Clark and Nye Counties, other Federal Agencies, BLM Field Offices, elected officials, and numerous interest groups and other organizations will become involved in the process and will assist in providing a wide variety of data and input in support of this revision effort.

The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, tribal, and national needs and concerns.

### Las Vegas RMP/EIS Process and Public Participation Components



Revision to the Southern Nevada Resource Management Plan  
and Environmental Impact Statement

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

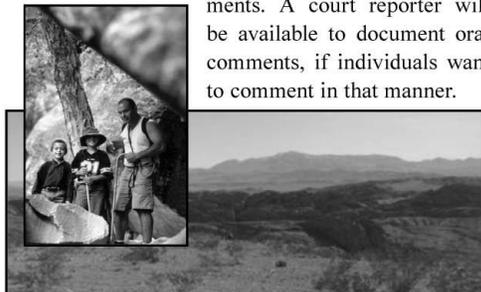
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**Las Vegas Field Office**  
**4701 North Torrey Pines Drive**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada 89130**

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**Public Scoping Open House Meetings... We Want Your Input**

The BLM encourages you to attend one of the public scoping open house meetings to be held throughout the area to provide comments and issues during the scoping period.

Open houses will begin at 5 p.m. and last until 8 p.m., with 10 minute informational presentations at 5, 6, and 7 p.m. Open houses will have several information stations that present information on key issues and the planning process. Attendees can learn about the RMP revision, ask questions, or provide written comments. A court reporter will be available to document oral comments, if individuals want to comment in that manner.



<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Address</u>
Tuesday Feb. 2	Las Vegas	BLM Las Vegas Field Office 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV
Wednesday Feb. 3	Henderson	Henderson Convention Center 200 South Water Street, Henderson, NV
Thursday Feb. 4	Mesquite	City Hall, Council Chambers 10 E. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV
Monday Feb. 8	Pahrump	Bob Ruud Community Center 150 S. Highway 160, Pahrump, NV
Tuesday Feb. 9	Beatty	Beatty Community Center 100 A. Avenue S, Beatty, NV
Wednesday Feb. 10	Laughlin	Regional Government Center 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, NV
Thursday Feb. 11	Overton	Overton Community Center 320 North Moapa Valley Blvd., Overton, NV

To learn more about the Resource Management Planning Process, visit our new website at [www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html)